

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. An image forming apparatus, comprising:
  - a fixing section configured to fix a developer transferred on a transfer sheet onto the transfer sheet by heating the transfer sheet;
  - 5 an energy saving power supply section configured to be supplied with power when a power switch is turned on;
  - an energy saving control device configured to be activated by the power supplied from the energy saving power supply section;
  - 10 a main power supply source configured to be controlled by an on and off operation of an output by the energy saving control device;
  - 15 a main body control device configured to be activated by the power supplied by the main power supply source;
  - an energy saving control release device configured to generate an energy saving control release signal and input the energy saving control release signal to the energy saving control device;
  - 20 a fixing control section configured to control a temperature of the fixing section;
  - a switching device configured to start and stop supplying the power to the fixing section; and
  - an on and off device configured to start and stop supplying the power to the fixing control section in response to the switching device,
- 25 wherein the energy saving power supply section includes an auxiliary power supply source, and wherein the auxiliary power supply source supplies the fixing control section with the power through the on and off device.

25           2. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the energy saving

control device controls an on and off operation of the on and off device based on the energy saving control release signal output from the energy saving control release device.

3. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the on and off

5 operation of the on and off device is performed based on one of two control signals output from the energy saving control device and main body control device.

4. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

means for fixing a developer transferred on a transfer sheet onto the transfer sheet;

10 an energy saving power supply section configured to be supplied with power when a power switch is turned on;

an energy saving control device configured to be activated by the power supplied from the energy saving power supply section;

15 a main power supply source configured to be controlled by an on and off operation of an output by the energy saving control device;

a main body control device configured to be activated by the power supplied by the main power supply source;

means for generating an energy saving control release signal and inputting the energy saving control release signal to the energy saving control device;

20 means for controlling a temperature of the means for fixing;

means for switching a start and stop of supplying the power to the means for fixing;

and

means for turning on and off the supply of power to the fixing control section in response to the means for switching,

25 wherein the energy saving power supply section includes an auxiliary power supply

source, and wherein the auxiliary power supply source supplies the means for controlling with the power through the means for turning on and off.

5. The image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the energy saving

control device controls an on and off operation of the means for turning on and off based on the energy saving control release signal output from the means for generating.

6. The image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the on and off

operation of the means for turning on and off is performed based on one of two control

10 signals output from the energy saving control device and main body control device.

7. A method for supplying an image forming apparatus with power, comprising:

providing a fixing section configured to fix a developer transferred on a transfer sheet onto the transfer sheet;

15 turning on a power switch;

supplying an energy saving power supply section with power when the power switch is turned on;

supplying an energy saving control device with the power;

controlling an on and off operation of an output of a main power supply source;

20 supplying a main body control device with the power;

generating an energy saving control release signal;

controlling a temperature of the fixing section;

switching a start and stop of supplying the power to the fixing section;

turning on and off the supply of power to the fixing control section;

25 providing an auxiliary power supply source to the energy saving power supply

section; and

supplying the power from the auxiliary power supply source in the controlling step through the turning on and off step.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

5 controlling an on and off operation in the turning on an off step based on the energy saving control release signal.

9. The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

generating a control signal from a main body control device; and performing an on 10 and off operation in the turning on and off step based on one of the energy saving control signal and the control signal.

10. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the fixing device is supplied with a first level of power in a startup mode and a second level of power less than 15 said first level in a non-startup mode.

11. The image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the fixing device is supplied with a first level of power in a startup mode and a second level of power less than said first level in a non-startup mode.

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12. The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

supplying a first level of power to the fixing section in a startup mode of the image forming apparatus; and

supplying a second level of power less than said first level in a non-startup mode of 25 the image forming apparatus.